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Balenciaga bag sizes guide

Here are some answers to common questions about Balenciaga. Please let me know if you want me to add something! :) What is the motorcycle line? This is Balenciaga's handbag line which is known to have tassels (fringe) hanging off zippers with little hardware or thimble-like giant hardware without tassels. What are some acronyms I should familiarize with? Here are some that are commonly found on fashion forums and sometimes on this blog: RH= Regular Hardware also known as the classic age brass hardware PH= Pewter Hardware (from 03-04) FBH or FB = Flat Brass Hardware GSH / SGH or G21 = Giant Silver Hardware GH = Giant Hardware GGH = Rose Gold Giant Hardware GCH = Giant Covered Hardware MGGH or G12 = Newest Mini Giant Hardware PT = Part time style MU = Make Up Clutch F / W = Autumn / Winter S / S = Spring / Summer What does the word Arena mean? Although I'm not 100% sure, Arena translate to sandy in Spanish. It is guessed that it means how the leather is treated to have it painful. How often are new colors released? There are two seasons S/S spring/summer, and FW Autumn/Winter. Each season has a pre-collection, and then a collection (usually only 3 colors). S/S pre-collection colors are usually released Dec, and the collection is released in February. For the FW pre-collection, it is released in June, and the rest in August. What colors are produced each season? Black, White and Anthracite Where can I find a color map of all the Balenciaga colors produced? Check out my semi-expensive color color color color swatch section here. What different types of hardware are there for different types? The first type of hardware produced in 2000-2002 was flat brass hardware FB (they look like brass thumbtacks pushed into the bag). Then there was the tin classic hardware PH that was produced in 2003-2004 (think of a dullish dark silver). The classic hardware that is still in production is the stored brass hardware that made its introduction in 2004. The classic hardware is also known as RH or ordinary hardware is made of aged brass that has been oxidized in color, but over time the oxidized residues may subside showing a true brass color. Aged brass hardware losing it oxidation Giant Silver and Gold Hardware GSH/GGH (also known as Giant 21) were introduced in 2007 which look like small thimbles. They are larger and make the bag heavier than the usual hardware. As of S/S 2012, Giant Silver and Rose Gold Hardware have been discontinued and replaced with the new Giant 12 hardware. Giant Gun Metal Hardware was produced very briefly in 2007 for limited edition bags like Neiman Marcus Teal City, and Suede bags. They haven't reproduced it since. Classic Covered hardware also made its brief appearance in fall 2008 and was discontinued soon afterwards. It looks like regular hardware but with a layer of matching leather over it. Covered Giant Hardware CGH or GCH was also introduced in autumn 2008 and is still Production. They cover giant hardware (probably not made of silver or gold) with a layer of matching leather. An interesting feature that comes with Giant Covered Hardware is the perforated trim along the bag/accessory. Balenciaga's newest reinvention of Covered Giant Hardware is now Brogues trim and was introduced in S/S in 2011. It's probably the replacement for Cover Giant Hardware due to its lack of popularity. The gigantic hardware seems to be a smaller in size and remains covered in leather but they have made perforations bigger and below is a contrasting color. S/S 11 Vieux Rose Brogue Brogues Hardware VS Giant Covered Hardware Rose Gold Hardware RGGH is the newest hardware that has been introduced in S/S 2010. It is a light pink gold hardware, but an interesting feature of this hardware is that the traces of the thimbles are tendered to achieve that vintage look. The zippers remain a light pink gold without darkening. This is probably replacement for Gold Giant Hardware, but Gold hardware will now be produced in limited styles and colors. For FW 2011, I've heard that the zippers now matched the rest of the hardware with that aged look. As of S/S 2012, Rose Gold Giant Hardware (Giant 21) is now replaced by Giant 12 (mini giant hardware) [see below for more details]. Mini Giant Hardware in Silver was introduced during the 2010 S/S Pre-Season. It made its first appearance on the coin wallets and is now on the town, first, and the Move-On/Move bag. It can also be seen on the Hip crossbody bag which made its first appearance during the FW 2009 Limited Edition Hip bags sold by Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman. For S/S 2012, the Mini Giant hardware called Giant 12 will replace Giant Hardware on all bags. It is possible that Giant hardware will be brought back as a boutique exclusive as they did with Giant Gold Hardware. For clarification Giant 12 Hardware is available in two sizes as pictured below, there is a slightly larger size for Giant 12 Hardware for Day, Work and Weekender. The other styles Hip, Envelope, Mini Pompon, First, Town City, Velo, Part Time will have the smallest of Giant 12 Hardware. It has been said that the reason for the closure of Giant Hardware above and the introduction of Giant 12 is due to complaints of the weight of Giant Hardware bags. For S/S 2013, Rose Gold G12 Hardware will be discontinued and replaced with Gold G12 (Mini) Hardware. G12 on the day slightly larger vs City under The Size Difference between Giant 12 Mini Giant Hardware versus Giant Hardware Original Giant Hardware Work versus the new Giant 12 Working with the larger size G12 hardware S/S 2012 Bleu Cobalt City with the new MINI GIANT HARDWARE or G12 The New Mini Giant Hardware Part-Time versus Giant Hardware Part-Time (both steps gold) [source cult status] Classic hardware in Nickel and Gold has also been produced this year to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the classic bag and other different styles such as animal print, and the large perforation bag. Anniversary Iridescent with Classic Silver Hardware Anniversary Animal Print with Classic Gold Hardware Cross Perforation with Classic Gold Hardware Finally the Riva line had an interesting nickel hardware that many had deemed it as nipple hardware. These bags were produced sometime in 2011 and have not continued. Smooth and smooth calfskin leather with a perforated trim decoration. For FW 2013, a new marble-effect hardware has been released with the suede bags. See here for another silver as hardware color. For the past few seasons, Balenciaga has renewed its hardware and added a metal edge contour details on its bags. Named Metallic Edge What is the size of the first versus the city? Although they are similar in design, they are both significantly different in size. The First's dimensions are 13.5 x 7.5 x 2.6, and the city is 15 x 9.4 x 5.5. The first has a significantly smaller amount than the city, if you carry more than the essential, it is recommended that you go with the city. Ardoise Classic City VS First [source diablo] Is there a size difference between classic city with regular hardware and Giant Hardware City? The dimensions are largely the same but the double handles are a little wider on the Giant City. Giant City is also heavier due to the larger hardware. What is the city's dimensions? 13.5 W x 9.5 H x 3 D. The city is very similar to the first but is higher in height. Classic Town What is the difference between part-time and work? The part-time is more of an east-west type of bag that comes with a shoulder strap. The dimensions are 17 x 8.7 and 7 . The work looks like a larger version of The City, but without the shoulder strap. The dimensions are 18 x 10.6 x 8 . The top bag is a Work, the middle is Part-time, and City is at the bottom. All three bags have Giant hardware. [source Cult Status blog] What is the size of weekender? The Weekender dimensions are 15 x 21 x 9. Classic Weekender What is the size of the day? Today's dimensions are 14 x 14 x 5 with a 15 handle drop. Classic Day Giant Hardware Day What is the size of Twiggy? Twiggy is a top-shaped bag that has shoulder strap and top handle. The dimensions are 7 x 14 x 6.5 . Although it is shorter than the city, it holds as much the city can. There is also a larger size Maxi Twiggy that measures at 9 1/2 H x 14W x 7 1/2. Twiggy What comes with my Balenciaga purchase? A bag purchase usually comes with the white dust bag with the Balenciaga logo on it, and 4 white paper cards – controllato, year cards, hang tag, and care cards. Starting in the 2009 season, small square leather samples have also been included. Sometimes you can also get a box with the logo on it, but not every store has boxes. What bags does the engraved metal tag have? To knowledge, the metal tags are in first, City, and Work (since FW 2005), and weekender in classic hardware only. There are no metal tags in Giant hardware bags. What do Chevre and Agneau mean? Chevre means goatskin. Chevre has completely ceased in S/S 2008. Agneau means lambskin leather introduced in FW in 2007 where there was both a mixture of Agneau and Chevre in production. There has been much debate that Chevre is superior to Agneau, but no conclusion has ever been reached. Chevre has also made his brief appearance in Holiday Hamilton bags for 2012. This type of goatskin leather had a more pebbled texture rather than Balenciaga's traditional heavily distressed leather. What is the Papier collection? The Papier bags and accessories are made of smooth veau (calfskin) and more recently Agneau (lambskin) leather. Many of the styles have a boxy paper bag style and thin handles. It has the little nickle hardware and is very light in weight. Many are fans because the leather is soft and durable. They come in different sizes such as the Mini A4 with messenger strap, A3, A4 and the new Basket style. Papier A4 Tote in Mimosa What style would you recommend having a cross body messenger strap? In the order of largest to small, here are my recommendations for Balenciaga bags that you can carry your hands free: Maxi Twiggy, Velo, Town, and Hip. Is there any other way to tell my Balenciaga bag of the year if I don't have the paper cards? If your Balenciaga bag is one of the models with the inner metal engraved tag, you can figure out the year and season from the specified letter from it. The letter is engraved on the metal before the exam symbol. For reference: H=S/S 2014 (metal tag font has been redesigned) I = FW 2013 J = S/S 2013 K = FW 2012 L = S/S 2012 M = FW 2011 N = S/S 2011 O = FW 2010 P = S/S 2010 Q = FW 2009 R = S/S 2009 Raised Brass HW, Silver Giant HW, Body Colored HW S = FW 2008 Raised Brass HW, Gold Giant Hardware, Silver Giant HW, Body Colored HW T = S/S 2008 Raised Brass HW, Gold Giant Hardware, Silver Giant HW U = FW 2007 Raised Brass HW, Gold Giant Hardware, Silver Giant HW V = S/S 2007 Raised Brass HW, Gold Giant HW W = FW 206 Raised Brass HW Pony hair had raised silver HW Y = S/S 2006 Raised Brass HW White Pony hair had Swarovski crystals Z = FW 2005 Raised Brass HW Canvas had raised silver HW A = S/S 2005 Raised Brass HW Metallics has raised silver HW B = FW 2004 Raised brass HW with Sans Serif Font from here C = S/S 2004 Raised Silver/Pewter HW with Serif Font D = FW 2003 Raised Silver/Pewter HW with Serif Font S/S 2003 Raised Silver/Pewter HW FW 2002 Suede with Raised Silver HW S/S 2002 Smooth and Pebbled Leather with Flat Brass HW FW 2001 Smooth and Pebbled Leather with Flat Brass HW If your bag has just the interior leather only tag, your best bet is to guess by identifying the color to match the specific season. Please email me if you want help. I have heard the any changes in FW 2008 to some of the bags, what are they? In FW 2008 there had been some subtle yet noticeable changes on the bags, some good and bad. First, they stopped giving an extra set of tassels with bags because they claim they used better glue so they are no longer shared. Secondly, the metal engraved tag is no longer made of pure silver (no.925 markings). The inner pockets have been made deeper, and the mirror that comes with the bags no longer has the pocket. More recently within the 2012 season, cell phone inner pockets have been added, and small changes to the leather tag have been made. Are there sales on Balenciaga bags? Yes, they have sales on the non-motorcycle line, and some of the funky motorcycle bags like straw canvas ones etc. Sometimes some big department stores have sales to clear out some room for the newest season bags coming in These sales are long and few in between unfortunately. My tassels have been splittorn, where can I buy extra? The Balenciaga stores carry extra tassels in current colors only, but they will only sell to you if you bought the bag directly from them. The price is now \$30 for a set. Also try to contact the department store/store you have purchased from to see if they can order a set on your behalf. Also if you are interested in repairing your split tassels, click here to see my DIY post. How many Balenciaga stores are there in the United States? There are currently 7 stores in the United States. They are located in New York, East Hampton, NY, Las Vegas, Nevada (2), and California (Costa Mesa and Los Angeles). The newest one that recently opened is in Florida. There is no Balenciaga store in my area, will they send to me instead? Yes! All boutiques take mail orders by phone/email. Be prepared to fill out a fee authorization form that you can either send e-mail or fax back. Ground UPS Shipping is always free and will require a signature upon delivery. Even if there is no Balenciaga boutique in your state, you will also not be charged tax! Alternatively, you can shop on their online website if you are not specifically about your leather agonizing. If I order from abroad from a Balenciaga store, will I incur any fees? Sorry, yes you will. The store will only use a private delivery service, such as UPS or DHL, and they will charge a percentage of the bag's value which will consist of both a brokerage/custom fee. Stores will not mark as a gift or declare a lower value of the bag. I got my bag from a secondary source, how can I confirm if its authentic? Please see The Purse Forums Balenciaga Authentic This thread. Be sure to provide clear pictures of the bag's internal tag (front and rear), bale (twisted piece of metal connecting the shoulder strap to the bag) and rivet (screw behind the stud on the handle). You can also try other handbag authentication services for a fee. What are some care products I will on my Balenciaga? Please see my short post about LMB products. To be honest, I usually follow if it's not broken not fix that motto. I only condition my bags if they are really needed, such as seeing white veins from dry stains, other than that I leave my bags alone. Currently you can also buy the official Balenciaga nourishing cream from the stores for \$20 (last time I checked), but I have yet to try it. source chocolateandcouture The corners of my bag are starting to look worn out, is there anything I can do about it? For black bags I recommend using Fiebing's Edge Kote in black. Dwell it with a nice color brush and let dry. It should revive the corner/pipeline back to almost new ones! Edge Kote is manufactured in Black, Tan, Light Tan, Brown, Light Brown, Cordovan, Burgundy, Mahogany and Neutral. I've had great results with Black and Mahogany so far. If you have any leather bags near any of these colors, it's definitely worth a chance to try. I bought mine from Ebay. Fiebing's Edge Kote What are your recommended must haves for the first time Balenciaga shopper? You can't go wrong with the City bag! I recommend either Classic or Giant Silver/Rose Gold Hardware in black. If you're not a heavy bag type of person, may I suggest the new G12 Hardware City bag? If you're not very much a satchel double handle type of person, a Classic Day is the next best choice if you're a hobo bag fan. If you are just an essentials type of person and only carry wallet, keys, cell and lipstick, then Classic First or G12 Hardware First would make a great bag for you. If your budget allows you to, their iconic and timeless classic leather biker jacket is a must for many Balenciaga lovers. Also, another style quilted leather biker jacket is quickly becoming a classic as well. I would only recommend classic first or g21 hardware first bag if you carry only the essentials on a daily basis, such as wallet, cell phone, and keys. Finally for accessories, I also highly recommend the beautiful Money Wallet with giant hardware or a Make Up clutch to keep all your essentials organized in your new bag. The triple tour and classic bracelets are a favorite and even Balenciaga ballerina apartments are super comfortable and chic. One of my favorite sandals of all time would be the arena studded sandal with rose gold hardware. What are some recommended places I can buy genuine Balenciaga bags? Please see my reputable stores list or check below for quick online shopping for Balenciaga bags and accessories. Balenciaga leather jacket jacket

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